

Is it lawful for a woman to propose to a man?

The first question of Fatwa no. 6400

Q 1: Is it permissible for a woman to propose to a good Muslim brother, when she sees that he is Multazim (a practicing Muslim), as did Lady Khadijah bint Khuwaylid (may Allah be pleased with her)? If Islam permits this, would it not undermine the woman's dignity afterwards? What are the conditions that a woman should observe if she admires a Muslim brother's morals, Islam, and committed adherence to Allah's Book and the Sunnah (whatever is reported from the Prophet) of His Messenger Muhammad (peace be upon him)?

A: If the matter is as mentioned, it is permissible for her to offer herself in marriage to this man or his like, and there is nothing wrong with this, as this was done by Khadijah (may Allah be pleased with her) and the woman mentioned in Surah Al-Ahzab who gave herself in marriage. This was also done by `Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) when he offered his daughter Hafsa in marriage to Abu Bakr and then to `Uthman (may Allah be pleased with both of them).

May Allah grant us success. May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions.

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